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REMARKS

Paragraph 2 of the Office Action

Claims 1, 3-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Friedman.

Claim 1 has been amended and now includes the limitations of as-filed claim 4. Claim 4 has been cancelled. Claim 1 now includes the limitation of a bracket and biasing members hingedly *and* removably coupled to and between the first and second frame portions. This combination is not taught in Friedman. First, Friedman does not teach biasing members extending between the first and second frame portions. If the Examiner argues that Friedman does show this, such as element 12 in Figure 1, then the Examiner cannot say that this element is also a bracket in the sense used by the applicant. Second, if the Examiner argues that any of these similar structures are analogous to the bracket, the Examiner cannot then argue that that these also constitute biasing members pivotally and removably attached to the first and second frame portions. The only pivoting that is shown are at what the Examiner, it is believed, is calling the brackets. This is a completely separate element in applicant's claims and is included to offer the user of applicant's device to remove the biasing member and replace it with one having a different resistance.

Further, with respect to claim 5, no element of claim 5 is either discussed or shown in Friedman. Element 54 in Figure 6 does not have the same structure, not is it pivotally and removably coupled to the first and second frame portions but slidably mounted on Friedman's connecting rods 16A and 18 A. Since these elements are not found in the Friedman device, Friedman cannot anticipate claim 1 or claim 8 and it is believed that claims 1, 8 and all claims depending from claim 1 are in condition for allowance.

The applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Date: 1/10/05

CONCLUSION

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In light of the foregoing amendments and remarks, early consideration and allowance of this application are most courteously solicited.

Respectfully submitted,

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